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BOLIVIA: Conflicts over how to handle labor unrest have further shaken the Banzer regime. A series of strikes was set off on 23 November when Interior Minister Adett-Zamora ordered the arrest of more than 30 leaders of unions that had just reached an agreement with Labor Minister Humboldt. Adett's claim that the newly declared state of siege was necessary in the face of leftist plotting against the government is likely to add to the irritation of workers who are demanding wage increases to offset the economic squeeze brought on by inept handling of the recent devaluation.

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